



European Commission Health & Consumers Directorate General

EU experience in capacity building on animal welfare

Maria Ferrara

Maria.FERRARA@ec.europa.eu

Unit D5 Animal Welfare

*The views expressed may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating
an official position of the European Commission*

**Workshop on educational strategies to promote
animal welfare concepts and practices**

Jaboticabal, 2 June 2010



Historical background on the development of EU policies on AW

- First EU AW legislation adopted in 1974
- **EC Treaty Protocol** enters into force 1999: pay “full regard” to the welfare of animals as “sentient beings”
- **White Paper on Food Safety**: full integration of AW into EU food chain policy, “farm to fork approach”
- The critical link between animal welfare, animal health and food safety has been widely assessed.
- **CAP reforms**: “cross compliance” and “meeting standards” principles
- **OIE guidelines 2005**
- The **Community Action Plan** on the protection and welfare of animals 2006-2010
- The New **Animal Health Strategy** (2007-2013)-“Prevention is better than cure”
- **Lisbon Treaty**: legal qualification of animals as **sentient beings**

1.12.2009: The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union

Article 13

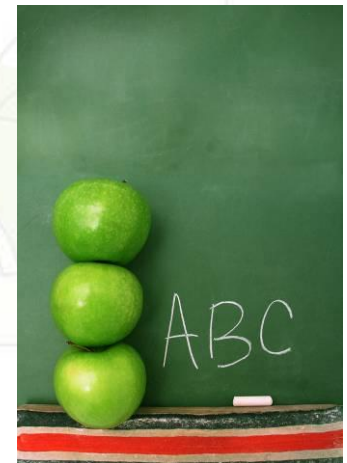
*“In formulating and implementing the Union's agriculture, fisheries, transport, internal market, research and technological development and space policies, the Union and the Member States shall, **since animals are sentient beings**, pay full regard to the requirements of animal welfare, while respecting the legislative or administrative provisions and customs of Member States relating in particular to religious rites, cultural traditions and regional heritage.”*

The multiple dimensions of Animal Welfare : an old story and a new discipline

" Animal welfare is complex, multi-faceted public policy issue that includes important scientific, ethical, economic and political dimensions"

30 years of legislative initiatives

- 1974/1993 Stunning and Killing
1977/1995 Transport protection Transport time limit and densities
1988 Laying Hens
1991 Calves – Pigs protection
1998 General Farm animal protection
1999 Protocol on protection and welfare of animals
1999 Ban on conventional cages for laying hens
2001 Grouping of pregnant sows
2005 Council Regulation 1/2005 on animal transport
2005 Proposal on broiler chickens
2006 Community Action Plan
2007 Ban on trade in cat and dog fur
2007 Council Directive on broiler chickens
2008 Proposal on the protection of animals at the time of killing
2009 Council Regulation on the protection of animals at the time of killing
2009 Regulation on trade in seals products





The Community Action Plan on the Protection and Welfare of Animals (2006 – 2010)

- 1. Upgrading existing minimum standards for animal protection and welfare**
- 2. Giving a high priority to promoting policy-orientated future research**
- 3. Introducing standardised Animal welfare indicators**
- 4. Education and knowledge transfer for all involved and for the general public**
- 5. Continue to support and initiate further international initiatives to raise awareness and create a greater consensus on animal welfare**



Working towards global animal welfare awareness

- To deliver **quality** in animal production while respecting **good health and welfare** of the animals
- It requires for producers and farmers a high level of management skills, technical **knowledge**
- ... **but at the same time the capacity to appreciate and understand the ethical value of animal welfare**
- Information of consumers to give preference to **sustainable** products

Main aspects integrated in Animal Welfare

1. The animal



2. Technology, research and innovation



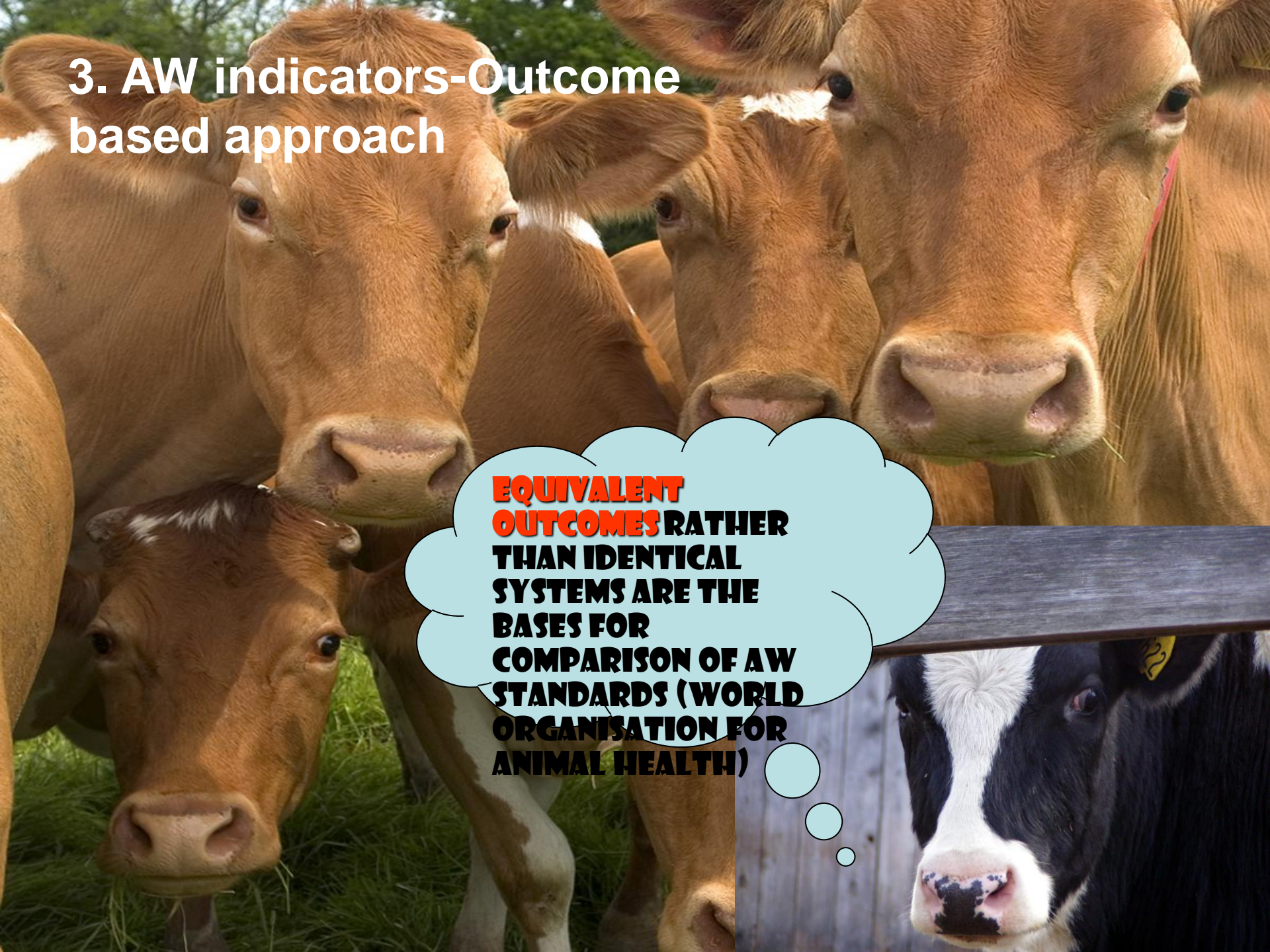
3. Society: duty of care



4. Policy support: capacity building



3. AW indicators-Outcome based approach



**EQUIVALENT
OUTCOMES RATHER
THAN IDENTICAL
SYSTEMS ARE THE
BASES FOR
COMPARISON OF AW
STANDARDS (WORLD
ORGANISATION FOR
ANIMAL HEALTH)**

4. Increase communication and transparency

- Better Training for Safer Food
- Farmland (children 9/12 years old)
<http://www.farmland-thegame.eu/>
- Targeted events to improve the enforcement and international conferences
http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/welfare/seminars/index_en.htm
- TAIEX Events-Middle East
- Workshop on pig castration, Brussels, 2 June 2010

Better Training for Improved Animal Welfare

- Address animal welfare with a **multidisciplinary approach** involving all professionals to understand the principles at the basis of EU legislation and its implementation
- High level of participation from **non-EU countries**
- In the international context, reaching a **shared understanding and awareness** of animal welfare principles and standards with countries trading with the EU.
- Over 750 officials trained

http://ec.europa.eu/food/training_strategy/index_en.htm

Animal welfare (2009-10)

- 3 workshops on animal welfare concerning stunning and killing of animals at slaughter and for disease control
- Each stunning and killing workshop dedicated to a specific species
- 3 workshops on animal welfare during transport and related operations
- 60 participants per workshop

Animal welfare (2011-2012)

- Workshops on the welfare of poultry and pigs on the farm
- Workshop on animal welfare concerning stunning and killing of animals at slaughter and for disease control

FUTURE

- E-learning

Better Training for Improved Animal Welfare in 2010

- Workshop on AW during killing for disease control purposes, 8-11 June 2010, Ascoli Piceno, Italy
- Workshop on AW at religious slaughter, 5-8 October 2010, Istanbul, Turkey
- Workshop on AW at slaughter in Canada, 23-25 November 2010
- Workshop on animal welfare, Shanghai, 8 June 2010

“Farmland”

The European Children’s Website on Animal Welfare

“**Respect**, **health** and **quality** make **for** a **happy farm!**”

- Based on the 5 freedoms
- Inform children as **citizens** of tomorrow of the origin of food and raise **awareness** about **how animals should be treated**

www.farmland-thegame.eu





1st International Conference on Animal Welfare Education

Everybody is responsible

1- 2 October 2010, Brussels

Objectives:

- The key aims are to give citizens more information about **educational tools and programs** on animal welfare, and to raise **awareness** about how important it is to educate citizens, farmers, professional animal carers, handlers, slaughterhouse operators, retailers and other stakeholders about how animals should be treated.
- The conference will also help create a **network at European and international level** between educational institutions that are active in animal welfare, and to develop a harmonised concept of animal welfare education that everyone involved can use.
- Prize awarding ceremony concluding the **animal welfare drawing contest for children** – organised during the second day of the conference

Everyone is responsible



1st International Conference
on Animal Welfare Education





The international dimension

Second OIE Global Conference on Animal Welfare

“....need to promote scientific research, **capacity building, education and communication** in the animal welfare area...”.





FAO Expert Meeting on capacity building to implement good animal welfare practices

FAO Headquarters (Rome)

30 September – 3 October 2008

“The treatment of animals is influenced by beliefs and values, which vary from culture to culture, regarding the nature of animals and their moral significance”

“Although animal welfare problems are extremely diverse, several problems stand out as high priority across many regions.....These are: transportation, slaughter (including pre-slaughter management),....handling/herding methods”

FAO Gateway to Farm Animal Welfare

<http://www.fao.org/ag/againfo/programmes/animal-welfare/en/>

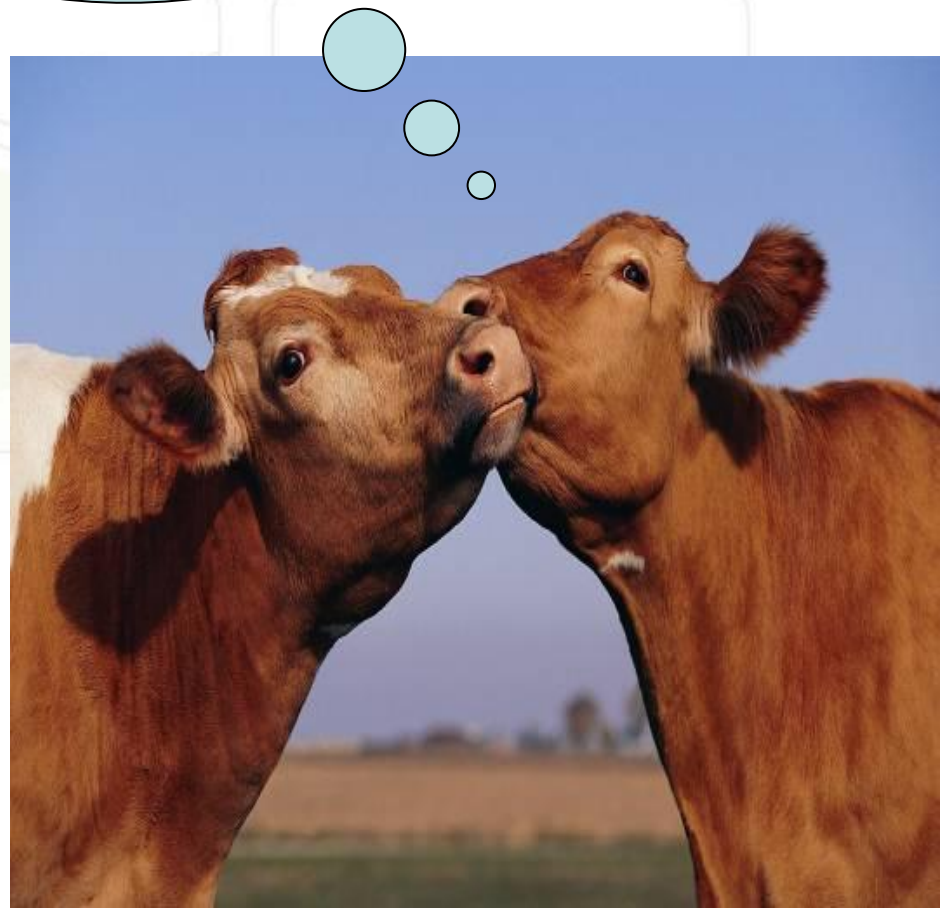
5. The international scene

- World Animal Health Organisation OIE: first international standards – **Regional implementation strategies** under development
- Council of Europe
- **FAO** – Capacity Building Initiatives
- **Bilateral agreements** and cooperation initiatives (Chile, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, etc.)
- First Global Conference on Trade and AW
- International Dairy Federation – Animal Welfare Seminar
- International Wool and Textile Organization: Seminar on Environment and Animal Welfare
- Cooperation with **OIE, FAO, World Bank, WHO** and continuous dialogue with **global retailers** and **NGOs**



Sustainable production: Towards a « new thinking »

- **Human-animal relationship** values associated with food demand and **consumers expectation**
- Opportunity for a **transparent information** from farmers to consumers
- **International partnership** and **collaboration** between farmers, veterinarians and international organisations backed-up by science



To implement animal welfare

New **science**

Understanding of standards

**Communication, Information
and Awareness raising**

Capacity Building

**Regional cooperation and
constructive dialogue**



OBRIGADA!!



The value of animals